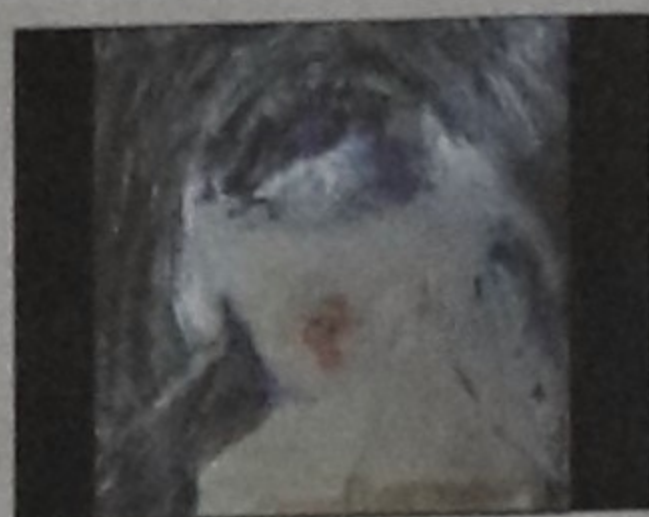


WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Shudurer Mita
Artist: Mustaque Ahmed
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H 21, Rd 4, Dhanmondi
Date: October 23-November 5
Time: 10am-8pm



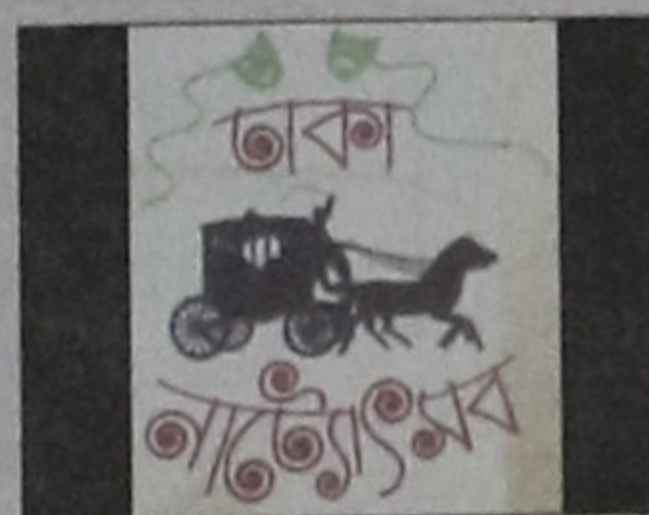
Solo Painting Exhibition

Artist: Mustafa Khalid Palash
Venue: Asiatic Art Gallery, Nimtoli, Ramna
Date: October 23
Time: 10am-8pm



Theatre Festival

Title: Dhaka Natyashab '09
Organiser: Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation
Venue: Zahir Raihan Cultural Centre, Shubrapur
Date: October 15-31
Time: 7pm everyday

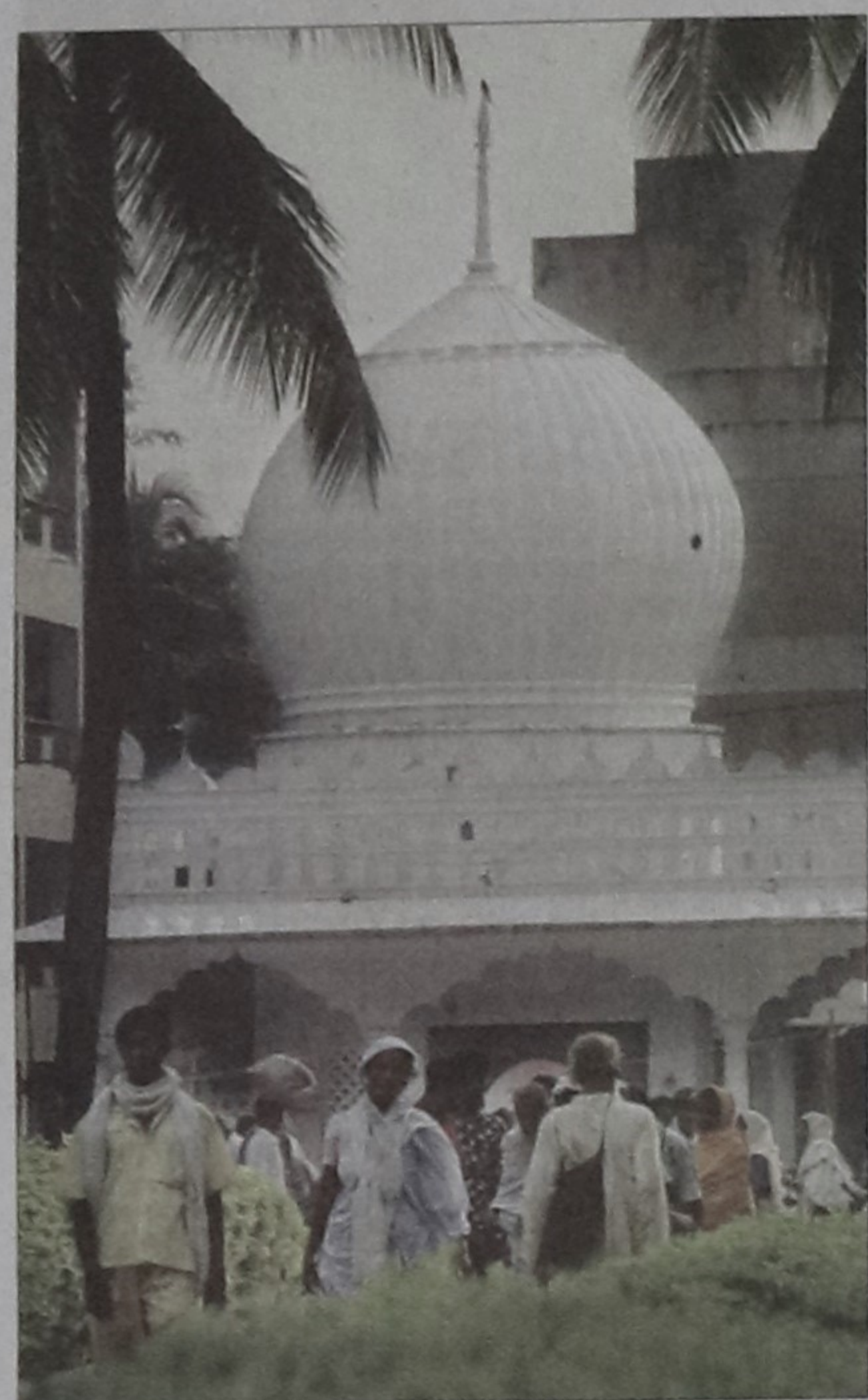


Architecture Week

Venue: Open Sky Gallery, North South University, Basundhara Campus
Date: October 17-22

architecture week

APPROPRIATION AND ARCHITECTURE
north south university bashundhara campus



On the occasion of the bard's 119th death anniversary, the shrine at Chheuria saw a major turnout of bauls and Lalonde enthusiasts.

Lalonde: Reverberations in the soul

JAMIL MAHMUD, back from Kushtia

After 119 years of his demise, Fakir Lalonde Shai's philosophy continues to have a strong hold, especially in the greater Kushtia and adjacent areas. Every year a large number of people from all corners of the country as well as from abroad visit Lalonde's shrine and pay homage to the great bard.

On the occasion of Lalonde's death anniversary and 'dol' utshab, special programmes were arranged in Chheuria. The programmes featured rendition of Lalonde's songs and a 'mela'.

This year's programme on the occasion of Lalonde's 119th death anniversary began on October 16 (the first day of the Bangla month 'Kartik'). The festival ended on October 18.

Lalonde Academy -- the organisation consisting of elected people responsible for looking after Lalonde's shrine and preserving his works -- organised a programme in association with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Banglalink was the sponsor of the programme.

The three-day programme by the academy included a 'Lalonde Mela,' discussion and rendition of baul songs. Enlisted artists of the academy and invited baul singers from across the country rendered popular and lesser-known Lalonde songs on the stage.

This year, the academy honoured ten personalities including renowned Lalonde researcher Professor Abul Ahsan Choudhury, Abdur Razzak and Abdul Latif Shah.

Apart from the Lalonde Academy event, several programmes by different groups were also held at the adjacent areas of Lalonde's shrine.

'Nabopran Andolon,' a cultural movement based on Lalonde's philosophy, arranged a programme at its centre, just opposite the shrine.

Another group known as 'Mazar Sharif and Sheba Shadan Committee' organised a three-day programme at Fakir Anwar Hossain aka Mantu Shai's residence. A group of bauls led by Humayun Shadhu rendered songs all day and night next to the shrine.

The bauls made space for themselves here and there in little groups and paid tribute to the great bard in their own ways -- through rendering songs. Not only bauls, enthusiastic urbanites were also in the crowd.

Apart from the Lalonde Akhra premises, adjacent villages were also in a festive mood on the occasion. The villagers also made arrangements for performances at their yards. Music continued throughout the night. The nearby 'shamshan ghat' (cremation grounds) also came alive as bauls sat there and sang devotional songs of Lalonde. All in all, the bard's songs reverberated in the locale throughout the festival.

The 'mela' (fair) was held at an open space in front of Lalonde's shrine. It was the main attraction for those who were less interested in the spiritual aspects of the festival. Almost everything that is found at a village fair, was available at the mela. Locally made sweets, reputed handloom products from Kumarkhali and other areas of the district, musical instruments like 'ektara,' 'dotara,' 'dhol,' 'khol' and flute were also available at the mela.

For children there was 'nagor dola'. A street magician amused the spectators with his tricks. It was obvious that the Lalonde Mela has turned into a cultural tradition of the locality.



PHOTO: MUMIT M.

Highlights of the festival were live music and a 'mela'.

Poetry in motion

Mohammad Nurul Huda felicitated on 60th birthday



Mohammad Nurul Huda (3rd from right) with guests at the programme.

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

To mark the 60th birthday of Mohammad Nurul Huda, one of the leading poets of Bangladesh, *Swatantra Shahitya Patra*, a local literary magazine, recently organised a function at the auditorium of Mukul Niketan High School. The function included a discussion on the life and works of the poet and a recitation session.

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Captain (ret) Mujibur Rahman Fakir attended the function as chief guest with poet Mosharraf Karim in the chair.

Sayedra Huda, Nurul Huda's wife, and poets Shamsul Fayeze, Ashraf Mir, Awlad Hossain, Gausur Rahman spoke at the discussion. Secretary of Bangladesh Writers Club, poet

Mohan Raihan, was special guest.

The chief guest unveiled the cover of a special issue of *Swatantra Shahitya Patra* published to commemorate the poet's 60th birthday.

In the course of the discussion, the speakers asserted that Nurul Huda has been working to enrich Bengali literature with his bold writings. They also sought blessings for a happy and peaceful life of the poet.

The poetry recitation session, dedicated to Nurul Huda, was attended by poets -- Dhrubajyoti Ghosh, Rais Manomom, Mahmudul Hasan, Monir Yusuf, Azhar Sarker and Matendra Mankin.

Earlier the poet was greeted with flowers. Poet Farid Ahmed Dulal conducted the programme while publisher of *Swatantra Shahitya Patra* Faruq Khan Pathan delivered the welcome speech.

U2 concert to be streamed live on YouTube

AFP, Washington

Irish rock megastars U2 announced Monday that their upcoming concert at the Pasadena Rose Bowl in California will be streamed live on YouTube.

"The band has wanted to do something like

this for a long time," U2 manager Paul McGuinness said in a statement on the band's website.

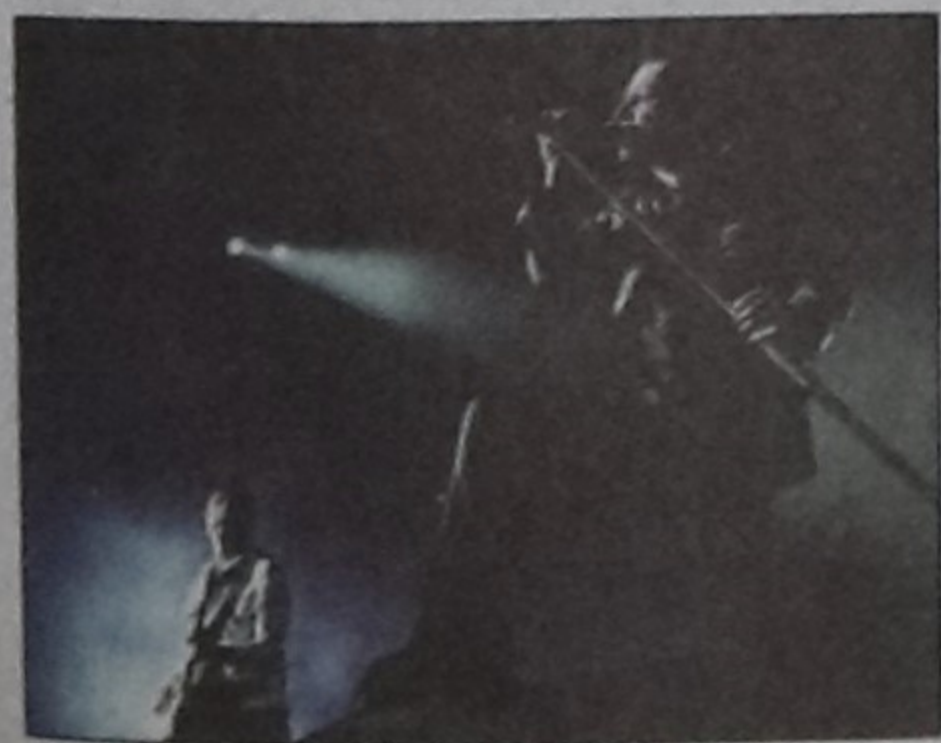
"Fans often travel long distances to come to see U2 -- this time U2 can go to them, globally," he said.

YouTube said Sunday's concert will be streamed live on the U2 channel at the video-sharing site.

It can be watched live in 16 countries: Australia, Brazil, Britain, Canada, France, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Korea, Spain and the United States.

"YouTube is thrilled to be able to provide our global audience with a live streaming performance from one of the world's greatest bands," Chris Maxcy, director of YouTube partner development, said in a blog post.

YouTube has been experimenting with more live events as Google seeks ways to turn the video-sharing site it purchased for 1.65 billion dollars in 2006 into a money-making venture.



Bono (right) and The Edge of U2.

THET
partnerships for global health

BRITISH COUNCIL 75 YEARS OF CULTURAL RELATIONS

International Health Links Funding Scheme

[A ground-breaking initiative to strengthen health systems in developing countries]

Call for Applications

THET, a UK-based international health charity, and the British Council, the UK's international body for cultural relations, are launching a pioneering funding scheme supported by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and Department of Health. The scheme is aimed at strengthening partnerships, or 'Links', between UK health institutions and their counterparts in developing countries.

The **International Health Links Funding Scheme (IHLFS)**, worth £3 million, is a three-year scheme that provides grants and support for Links. The primary purpose of Links is to build the capacity of developing countries' health systems. Link activities can be very broad and include training and capacity-building for staff, providing practical skills, continuing professional development, and curriculum development. This scheme will greatly contribute to the UK's commitment to international development.

There are three different types of grants available:

Small grants (up to £3,000): To support the development of new and young links. Applications will be considered at any time during the lifetime of IHLFS or until all the funding for each year is allocated.

Medium grants (up to £15,000 per year for one or two years): To help existing links carry out a needs assessment, develop plans for a larger initiative or carry out modest development programmes.

Large grants (up to £60,000 per year for up to three years): To support strategic capacity building programmes implemented by a link partnership. Activities could include, for example, curricula development; working with faculties to strengthen pre- and post-qualification training; improvements to the teaching or clinical environment; interventions to strengthen professional conduct; or practice-based research.

The IHLFS is open to a wide range of not-for-profit health institutions in developing countries including hospitals, health training institutions or professional associations, and their UK counterparts, such as NHS Trusts and professional associations. Universities can participate, but not as lead partners.

There are separate application forms and guidelines for Large, Medium and Small Grants. When completing your application form, please refer to the appropriate guidelines which provide assistance on how to complete each section of your application. Application Forms, Guidelines, Budget Spreadsheets and further information are available at: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-healthlinks>

The deadline for applications for Medium and Large Grants is **30 November 2009**. Applications for Small Grants may be submitted at any time.

Please send your completed application form and supporting documentation to: HealthLinks@britishcouncil.org

For further information, please email: HealthLinks@britishcouncil.org or contact:

Md Omar Faruque
Project Manager: INSPIRE and DeIPHE
British Council Bangladesh
5 Fuller Road, GPO Box 161
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
T +88 (02) 8618905 F +88 (02) 8613255. 8613375
Omar.faruque@britishcouncil.org
www.britishcouncil.org/bangladesh

DFID Department for International Development

DH Department of Health